

The next day was wet, and the child-ren could not go out. From morning till night the sun never shew-ed his face: dark clouds hid the blue sky. And the rain fell in such torrents, that if you ran out <sup>only</sup> to the garden gate, you would be wet through.

Even Mr. Brown had to ~~stay~~ <sup>stay</sup> at home, for no one could work in the fields on that rain: so he did odd jobs about the house with the help of the two boys.

Where can all the water come from? said Ned: if the sky was made of great water tubs turned up-side down it could not rain fast-er.

That's what I want to know, said the other: where does the water come from?

Look up, boys, can you see any blue sky? No, nothing but dark heav-y clouds. Those clouds are the water tubs. They are made of water, & they are full of water. When they get so full that they are very heav-y, down they fall turn-ble: not a whole cloud at once, but bit by bit in

drops of rain.

Well, but where does the water come from? where do the clouds get it in the first place?

The sun is their water car-rier. He takes a great deal of water out of the sea: comes to our clouds, pours you a few pint-pails you know how easy, it gets in hot weath-er: comes to the water-bottles in the win-dow for a drop or two: wherever there is a little pond, or even finds it out, & carries some of its water to the clouds.

Oh, I see: and when the clouds are too full, the water comes back to us as rain. Should we be glad, father, to see the rain?

Indeed we should: it is the rain that makes our fields green and our grain full of juice.

We can see the water come down <sup>in little</sup> drops, but I have never seen any of it go up. <sup>How</sup> does it go up, father?

That is the cause of the clouds, says the drops which you can see, but it goes up as much as it goes down. I can see it at all!



## The Foot-Rule.

Alphens 41

The next day<sup>d</sup> was too wet for Mr. Brown to go to work; so he said he would put up a shelf in the back-kitchen as for mother's pth spoons.

So he took out his foot-rule & began to measure the wall. Then he went to the old meas-ured his wood, and marked with a pen-cil how long & how broad the shelf was to be.

You may be sure the boys were not far off; for boys like to <sup>watch</sup> ~~see~~ men at <sup>their</sup> work, & to know how things are done.

"What do you call that bit of wood you measured with, father?"

"That is a foot-rule; it is so called because it is as long as a foot; it is not from foot to ground. The length of a foot is not from the same up."

"But all people have not feet of the same size." "No; but all foot-rules are of the same length. Look at this rule & you will see it is marked off into twelve parts by little lines."

Each of these parts is an inch, and there are twelve inches in a foot.

Every one knows how long a foot is; so if I write to your uncle in London, Fred, and ask him to send me a piece of deal 8 feet long, & 6 inches broad, he will know just what to send.

Here is the rule; measure along the floor how long <sup>such a</sup> plank would be, & how broad; you can make marks with this piece of chalk to

"show the length & breadth."

"Father, could you spare us the rule? We could measure the kitchen & everything in

it." "Very well, boys; when I come in to dinner, you must tell me how long & how broad the table is, how far it is from the fire. How long & how broad the length & breadth of the dress is, & how far it is from the door; and anything else I may ask."



## Measuring.

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The boys went to work with great glac. One got a slate to put down the length & bread<sup>th</sup> of every thing, while the other measured.

First, Ned measured the out-side wall where the door & window were. ~~From ten~~<sup>the</sup> feet, 3 inches, he called out to Charley, who put it down. Then he

measured the in-side wall on the other side of the room. "Why, it's just the same; you must put down its feet, 3 inches again."

The side of the room where the fire-place was glac the boys, because the wall came out 2 feet into the room to make room for the chimney-way.

"You had bet us meas-ure along the floor, on front of the fire," said Mr. Brown.

This wall was eleven feet, six inches long, & the op-pos-ite wall was the same length.

The table was the next thing, & the boys meas-ured how high it stood, as well as how long & how broad it was, & how far it was from each of the front walls.

"What a pity it can't meas-ure how high the room is!" said Char-ley.

And Mr. Brown heard him, and thought her steps, and Ned got up, meas-ur-ing as he went, until he reach-ed the ceiling. 8 feet, 8 inches, he called out <sup>from the top</sup> as loud-ly as if Char-ley were in the next street.

When Mr. Brown came in, the boys could tell him the length and bread<sup>th</sup> of nearly every thing in the room; and how far every thing was from the door & from the fire.

"How many things do you know the length & bread<sup>th</sup> and height of?" Oh, three, the table & the dress-er, and the room itself.

"Then you know the length and bread<sup>th</sup> & height of a thing, you know its size," said Mr. Brown.

Meas-ur-ing the School room. September 43

"Father, may we take your first rule to school & ask Mras. W. to let us meas-ure?"  
"Yes, you may take the rule, but mind you do not lose your measure."

So their prayers were over, Ned said, "Please Sir, we have brought father's first rule, and may we meas-ure the school room?"  
"That you may, my boy; but wait till recess is over, & I will tell you what to do."

After morn-ing school, the master said "Every boy <sup>in this class</sup> may ask his father to lend him a foot rule this after-noon, & you may all meas-ure the school room. The boys who measure better things shall count it for their home lessons."

That a meas-ur-ing there was to be sure! They meas-ured the walls, & the desks, & the doors & the windows, and could tell how far it was from the master's desk to every window.

At last Tom Jones said, "Let us measure the play-ground," so off they set, & soon found that it was 150 feet long, & ~~round~~ 95 feet broad. Then they found out how far it was from the school room to each wall of the play-ground.

Ned meas-ured the long wall of the school room, & found it was 47 feet long. "Why," said he, "how is this? the school room was only 45 feet long inside, yet is 47 feet long outside!" Two or three other boys tried, but they found that Ned was quite right. Just then the master came out & he told them that the thick-ness of the two end walls made the outside wall longer than the inside.

What becomes of the Nasin.

"Oh mother," said Mary, "we could hardly get to school today; there was quite a broad stream in the middle of the road; but Ned knew in his shoes, we stop not a bus."

"Ah," said Mr. Brown, "that is our old friend, the rain. You want it to know where the rain comes from; but where do you think it goes to?"

Q. "It goes by?"  
A. "It comes away," said Ned. "It comes  
with the wind," said Char-ley. "Mr. Jaro  
Mary, 'The sun draws it up again to make  
more clouds of.'"

more clouds of  
You are all three right: but what he comes of the  
water that runs away? Where does it run to?<sup>13</sup>  
None of the children could answer: so after tea  
Mr. Brown said, "Put on your hats and will  
at the brook."

"Oh, father, how full it is! if there were  
a little more water, it would be over our  
the fields. And see how fast it is going!"  
"Look at the stick Jack threw in: it is  
nearly out of sight."

"Yes, it is quite plain that the brother is going some where, & that it is in a leaves too. But what do you think has made it so full?"

"H. rain" said Mary.

"The rain," said Mary.  
"Yes, but not the rain that has fallen on forest land.  
No more rain has fallen <sup>into the brook</sup> ~~into the brook~~ <sup>some of</sup> ~~into the brook~~  
<sup>fell</sup> upon our street. But then, the rain which  
fell on the street & the fields flowed away in  
little streams which found their way down  
to this brook. And now the brook is running in  
to form a much wider stream, called a river. And  
the river itself is running away to the great sea,  
into which it pours all its waters."



"Have you ever seen the sea? Cher-Loy? You have not? Well, I promised Ned & Mary they should go to Chert town for a day this summer. ~~so now it is a hot day to~~ now we will go tomorrow."

"Oh, father, I can just see the sea," said Ned  
the next day as he stood at the window of the  
railway carriage.

And I can smell it how nice & soft  
it smells, said Mary.

it smells, said many.  
 Soon, they were on the beach, & paid. Along  
 in the water, with <sup>out</sup> shoes & stock. up off.  
 I found a pretty shell I have found!

"Look, what a pretty shell I have found!"

"Look, what a pretty  
"bucket is this?"  
"That is see-weed; a great many plants  
"that are called see-weed."

Wittes

What is sec. used? That sec.

What is sea water?  
Like that found in the sea.  
"How salt it tastes!"  
"The sea water is very salt."  
"The sea water is not salt."

"How ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> the sea water salt?"  
"The water of our brook is not salt."

The water of one brook is not salt;  
The water of another brook is fresh water,  
The water of a third brook is salt.

but the sea is always salt. I can't see to the end there how

How big the sea is! I can't see to the end of it. And see the ships over there how they sail away! "Where ships will sail in a week."

They sail away! ships will sail  
across the wide sea for many weeks  
before they come to dry land again.

Oh, father, the sea is going to flow over the  
land! it is ~~coming~~ much further  
in than when we came down to the beach."

"It will go out again, soon; the sea  
is always run ring up to the land, & then  
run ring away from it; and this run ring  
is call ed the com ing in and go ing out  
of the tide."

If the tide  
goes out the sea and the water of our brook  
reaches a last "flowing" into the sea in those  
very <sup>low</sup> places into which our little brook passes. I was when

"The <sup>small</sup> broad stream flows into the sea in the  
very river into which our little boat passed."

Roll on, roll on, you restless waves,  
That toss about & roar;  
Why do you all run back again  
When you have reached the shore?

Roll on, roll on, you rising waves,  
Roll higher up the strand;  
How is it that you cannot pass  
That line of yellow sand?

Make haste, or else the tide will turn;  
Make haste, you rising sea;  
Roll quick across the bank, & then  
Run on across the sea.

"We dare not so," the waves reply;

"That line of yellow sand  
Is laid along the shore to bound  
The waters & the land;

"And all should keep to their place,  
And all should keep to rest,  
Both water upon the sandy shore,  
And little boys at school."

*And your hymn?*



And many crept up to their Master's side when they went out to play next day. They want ed to tell him ~~all~~ about their day at the sea-side. "We got all new shells yesterday <sup>from</sup> the beach," said Mary in a chip voice, holding up a little box full of shells.

"And a great deal of sea-weed besides," said Fred.

"Well, and ~~what~~ how did you like the sea, children?"

"Oh, Sir it is so big; father said it would take some ships <sup>time</sup> ~~us~~ <sup>us</sup> ~~us~~ weeks to get to the far land they were going to."

"Here there are waves?" "Yes, there were little waves that kept coming closer and closer in to the land; father said it was the tide coming."

"But there are not the sort of waves that make ships go down; are they, Sir? Mother told us about a ship-wreck; and the great wave went up to the top of the masts, & <sup>it nearly took her in pieces</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>and</sup> all the sailors would have been drowned, only a life-boat came & took them up."

"There are the great storm waves which <sup>only</sup> ~~only~~ come, when there is a very strong wind."

"Where do the ships go to Sir? I should like to know all about the sea, & about Africa & London & all the places in the world."

"Soyon shall Fred: you are getting quite old enough to learn ge-o-graphy. We shall begin next week & then Chas-ley will learn a little before he goes."

"Shall you Sir; but if geography tell us about places, I must ~~Chas-ley~~ know some already. He is more years old than I am, only seven."